Application No.: 10/538,498 2 Docket No.: 514572000600

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please substitute the following paragraph for the abstract appearing in the currently pending specification:

This invention relates generally to the field of <u>cell separation</u>. In particular, the invention provides processes and kits for isolating a target cell, cellular organelle or virus from a sample, using inter alia, non-or low specific nonspecific binding between a target cell, cellular organelle or virus with a magnetic microbead <u>modified to comprise hydroxyl, carboxyl or epoxy groups</u>.